Strategy to combat maoist problem

1135. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether spate of meetings and discussions by officials of Central and State Governments have till now failed to produce a unified strategy to combat Maoist problem in the country;

(b) whether lack of agreement on a unified model to contain and control the problems has proved to be a great obstacle to achieve much needed co-ordination among the affected States;

(c) whether the sharp differences among the affected, once again cropped up at the meeting of the task force on anti-Maoists. operations on April 13; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to meet the situation and check anti-Maoists activities in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) Law and order being a State subject, it is ultimately for the State Governments to be in the forefront of the efforts to contain Left Wing Extremism. It is well known that when the naxalites are under pressure in one State, they escape to neighbouring States. Therefore, inter-State coordination is an important and continuous part of the effort to curb them. Towards this end State Governments share intelligence and conduct joint operations. Standing Operating Procedures (SOPs) have also been brought into effect for coordinated inter-State action. At the Central level, a Task Force under Special Secretary (Internal Security), consisting of officers of Intelligence agencies, Central Para Military Forces and concerned State Police Forces, has also been set up to deliberate upon the various steps needed to deal with the activities of naxalites and to bring about co-ordination between authorities of different States as may be necessary.

In the Task Force meeting on 13 April 2007, operational and coordination matters were deliberated upon in normal course.

(d) The Central Government is supplementing and coordinating the efforts and resources of the State Governments through a variety of measures, including deployment of 33 battalions of Central Para Military Forces that work under the command of the concerned State Governments.

The States have also been urged to expeditiously fill up existing vacancies in their Police Forces, raise the India Reserve battalions sanctioned by the Central Government and optimally utilize the Central forces and the Central assistance for modernization of State Police Forces made available to them. In addition, the State Governments have also been urged to ensure effective implementation of a large number of Development Schemes to improve the conditions in the affected areas.

Home Secretary dialogue between India and Pakistan

1136. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Pakistan Home Secretary level talks were held in July, 2007 to further continue the dialogue between the two countries and India handed over